

Serial No.: 10/775,298
Filed: February 9, 2004

Remarks

By this amendment, Applicant has cancelled claim 3 and amended claims 1, 9–11, and 16–18 to more clearly set forth the present invention. No new matter is added by this amendment. The claims currently pending in the present application are:

Independent claims: 1, 8, and 15

Dependent claims: 2, 4–7, 9–14, 16–21

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 3, which Examiner previously indicated contained patentable subject matter. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2 and 4–7 depend from amended claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim.

Examiner indicated that claim 8 was in condition for allowance.

Claims 9–11 have been amended as suggested by Examiner to overcome the objection under 35 U.S.C. section 112. Specifically, the word “device” has been deleted and the word “method” has been inserted. Since Examiner indicated that claims 9–11 would be allowable if rewritten, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 9–11 are now in condition for allowance.

Examiner indicated that claims 12–15 were in condition for allowance.

Claims 16 – 18 have been amended as suggested by Examiner by replacing the word “device” with the word “method.” Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment overcomes Examiner’s objection under 35 U.S.C. section 112. Since Examiner indicated that claims 16 – 18 would be allowable if rewritten, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 16 – 18 are in condition for allowance.

Examiner indicated that claims 19–21 were in condition for allowance.


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Conclusion

In sum, Applicant submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Should Examiner believe that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of this application, the undersigned would invite and request such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,
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